FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 MARCH 1987

### PLO Affairs

Hardline Palestinian factions announced a "Tripoli document for the recovery of the unity of the PLO" during a press conference reported by Tripoli television. It was signed by "PNC Chairman" Khalid al-Fahum and six factions including the PFLP, the PFLP-GC, the DFLP, and Fatah-the Revolutionary Council, which is associated with Abu Nidal. JANA subsequently carried the text of the document, which calls on the PLO to adopt a collective leadership, officially abrogate the Amman agreement, break relations with Egypt, organize joint action to defend Palestinian camps in Lebanon, and consolidate relations with Syria and other "nationalist and progressive" regimes. Other clauses of the document insist that there can be no sharing or deputation of PLO representation at an international conference, which the PLO must attend "as an independent party on equal footing with the other parties." On organizational matters, the document calls for the admission of Fatah-the Revolutionary Council and the Fatah "uprising" movement into the PNC, whose upcoming session will be considered as "a unifying session on the basis of the membership of the 16th session." The document also praises Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's role in working to restore Palestinian unity.

### Chadian Conflict

"Columns" of Libyan soldiers began leaving Faya Largeau, said to be the last strategic Libyan position in northern Chad, AFP reported citing informed French sources. Libyan forces exploded several gasoline and ammunition dumps before starting to move north, the sources said. JANA's political commentator, however, asserted there have been no Libyan forces in Faya since 1983, calling the French report "another link in the chain of lies."

In another report, JANA insisted "France bears responsibility" for Libyans allegedly arrested in Chad, affirming there are a "limited number" of Libyan technicians aiding GUNT in Chad. JANA said that reports by Ndjamena radio and Western media indicate there are "wide-ranging arrest operations" against Libyans living in Chad.

### Lebanon

*Hizballah Officials in Damascus* — Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held talks on the Lebanese situation with four Hizballah officials 25 March, Damascus television noted. The Hizballah delegation included Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli and Husayn al-Musawi. Al-Tufayli subsequently told IRNA that the discussion was "friendly and fruitful," noting that topics covered included "threats" to Muslims in Lebanon, the need for unity, and the Beirut security plan.

*Lebanese-Israeli Clash* — Beirut radio reported that Israeli helicopters exchanged fire with Lebanese Army positions in the Rashayya area of southeast Lebanon 25 March. In another development, the Lebanese National Resistance announced that its forces shelled the Israeli settlement of Nahariyya with Grad missiles 26 March, according to the radio, which cited an "enemy" radio report that one of the missiles killed a U.S. tourist. However, monitored Israeli media have not been observed to report the attack.

*Iranian Hostages* — Citing "a secret report which has not yet been officially confirmed," Tehran radio accused U.S. and Israeli intelligence services of involvement in the kidnapping of four Iranian diplomats by Phalangist militiamen in 1982.

### Iran

Iran's capabilities in the Persian Gulf are not limited to its land-based antiship missiles and there are "other more effective missiles" at its disposal, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi stated in remarks reported by Tehran radio. However, none of these weapons are more frightening to the United States than the danger posed by "the will of an alert nation which is determined to make its own independent decisions" and follow Islam. The prime minister warned the United States that the borders of the Islamic revolution do not end in the Gulf, adding that "this revolution has long arms to slap the United States in all parts of the world."

### Afghan Raids

Afghan aircraft bombed villages in the Ribat Qila area on the joint borders of Pakistan, Iran, and the DRA 25 March, according to rebel sources cited by AFP. The raid killed 80 persons and wounded more than 60, AFP said, noting that Iranian troops fired at the planes but failed to hit their targets.

Reacting to claims that the DRA violated Pakistani airspace, an Afghan Foreign Ministry spokesman maintained that Pakistan is making "unfounded accusations" to "justify" its desire to purchase new weapons and to disrupt talks in Geneva, Kabul radio reported.

### Egypt

*Debts to USSR* — The debt rescheduling agreement signed in Moscow 20 March applies only to the military debts which were frozen in 1977, MENA reported, adding that Egypt pays its civil debts on time and "there are no problems in this regard." A "responsible economic source" cited by the agency said the military debts will be repaid in commodities and products. An Egyptian Embassy spokesman in Moscow disclosed that his country's debt to the Soviet Union stands at around 7.6 million dollars, AFP noted.

*Party Programs* — Electoral programs of various opposition parties were broadcast by Cairo radio and television in recent days. The Neo-Wafd Party's program included a demand for a

new constitution, while the Socialist Liberal Party said its first principle is the application of Islamic Shari'ah.

### Israel

*Pollard Committee* — The government has guaranteed the secrecy of testimonies given to the Pollard fact-finding committee and the three witnesses who earlier refused to testify have now agreed to appear before the committee, Jerusalem radio announced. The radio pointed out that despite a written commitment to the witnesses, the government can "free itself" of the promise if it can persuade the court that the "interest of the state requires this."

*Israeli-Palestinian Communique* — Abba Eban, Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee chairman, and Palestinian figures from the West Bank met on 25 March and signed a joint communique, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service reported. The communique calls for peace, supports the idea of an international conference, and condemns terrorism, the radio noted.

### Saudi Arabia-YAR

A Beirut press report cited by Voice of Lebanon radio disclosed that a clash took place on the Saudi-YAR border 24 March. No casualties were reported, but five Yemenis were "escorted under force into Saudi Arabia," the report said.

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### Pakistani Claim of Airspace Violation 'Unfounded'

*LD251801 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
*1600 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Reacting to the recent remarks by Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan to the effect that the DRA Air Force has allegedly violated the airspace of his country, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has said:

The aim of the Pakistani authorities making such unfounded accusations against the DRA is to exacerbate tension between the two countries to justify to world public opinion Pakistan's desire to purchase new weapons, including the AWACS plane. Pakistan's behavior toward our country is not new. It embarks on such a course each time it tries to justify to Washington its interventionist plans to obtain further weapons in the pursuit of its strategic aims, or whenever it wants to disrupt the talks in Geneva between the two countries.

No longer can those who exacerbate tension in our region hide their war-mongering face behind such a propaganda mask and keep secret their interventionist and aggressive plans from world public opinion.

### Jets Bomb Villages in Iran, Pakistan Border Area

*BK251512 Hong Kong AFP in English 1454 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Islamabad, March 25 (AFP) — Eighty people, mostly Afghan mujahidin rebels, were killed and more than 60 were wounded Wednesday as Afghan jets bombed villages in the Rabat region on the joint borders of Iran, Pakistan, and Afghanistan, rebel sources said.

The pro-resistance *Afghan Islamic Press* (AIP) said 12 Afghan jets dropped bombs in the area, on the territory of all three countries.

Rabat, which is inhabited mainly by mujahidin rebels and Afghan refugees, is considered a major corridor from Afghanistan to Iran and Pakistan. The sources said Iranian troops fired at the Afghan planes, but failed to hit their targets.

AIP quoting sources in Iran said at least 60 people had been transported to the Iranian border city of Zahedan for treatment.

The attack follows Monday's Afghan bombing of Pakistani border villages. Press reports said here Wednesday the death toll of Monday's raids had risen to 150.

### AFP: Guerrillas Stage Attacks in Soviet Territory

*BK261032 Hong Kong AFP in English 1013 GMT 26 Mar 87*

[By Dimitri Kochko]

[Text] Islamabad, March 26 (AFP) — The Afghan conflict appears to take a new international shape as Afghan guerrillas report staging attacks and supply raids inside Soviet territory and the Afghan Government steps up air bombings on guerrilla refugee camps in Pakistan.

Afghan Air Force raids on Pakistani border towns on February 26-27 and this week have killed about 300 people, mostly Afghan refugees, authorities here say. Kabul denies the bombing raids. The raids are intended to pressure Pakistan into a better "understanding" of Kabul's peace offers to the guerrillas, especially the unilateral cease-fire started on January 15 as part of a "national reconciliation" plan, Western specialists here say. Most guerrilla groups have rejected the plan.

The specialists stress that last month's air raids coincided with a round of indirect talks in Geneva between Pakistan and Afghanistan, sponsored and mediated by the United Nations and started in 1982. The talks are said to be blocked by differences on a timetable for the pullout of Soviet troops from Afghan territory. But the air-raid escalation, the specialists say, was also a response to operational and armament improvements by the Moslem-dominated guerrillas during the past year, which have allowed it to stage spectacular attacks on Soviet troops in Afghanistan. The improvements reportedly have also led the guerrillas to venture into Soviet territory for at least one attack, on March 9, as well as for establishing links with Soviet Moslems near the border.

Sources in the rebels' Islamic Jamiat party said the guerrillas staged a rocket attack around Emam Saheb, a town on the Soviet-Afghan border. The sources did not specify the attack's targets or whether they had been hit. They said, however, that the attack sparked a reprisal by Soviet troops coming directly from Soviet territory across the Soviet-Afghan border, apparently for the third time in less than two weeks.

A guerrilla report published in southern Pakistan on Monday said that about 150 people were killed in another such reprisal in the northwestern Afghan region of Morghab. The Soviets arrived in a 150-vehicle convoy backed by helicopters, the report said, after the guerrillas had seized all Afghan Government outposts, killing or wounding several soldiers in the previous days.

Another Soviet reprisal attack by troops coming directly from the Soviet Union took place on March 7 in the northern Afghan province of Takhar after the guerrillas had staged a successful raid on the district's military headquarters, the guerrilla-linked Islamic Afghan news agency said.

Sources in the guerrilla Jamiat-e Eslami party said dozens of Soviet helicopters carried troops from the Soviet Union on March 15 for a reprisal attack in the northern Konduz Province which left "hundreds" of people dead.

Western diplomats have said here in the past few weeks that Soviet troops have been massing near the Afghan border, but they had not mentioned the reported reprisals against the Afghan guerrillas.

Guerilla sources in Peshawar, western Pakistan, said that the rebels have stepped up infiltration raids into southern Soviet republics whose population is mainly Moslem. The sources said the guerrillas often contact people whose ancestors were members of the Afghan rebel's family, and give them copies of the Koran in Russian. The guerrillas also attack agricultural and industrial warehouses and take their loot back to Afghanistan.

**Party, Government Officials Depart for USSR**
*LD251712 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
*1600 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Comrade Nazar Mohammad, candidate member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Mohammad Aziz, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the DRA State Planning Committee; and Minister of Finance Mohammad Kabir today left on a working visit to the USSR.

### Gandhi Views President's Office, Election Results

*BK251555 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*1530 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] The prime minister has said that his party accords the highest respect to the office of the president and feels that it should be kept above partisan politics and controversy. Addressing a meeting of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said it is with this end in view that he had refrained from making any comment on the current controversy.

Referring to the assembly election results, the prime minister said in Kashmir the forces of nationalism and secularism have routed the forces of religious fundamentalism and separatism. This is a great victory. It has made the border state a bastion of India's unity and integrity.

### Opposition Groups To Table 'No Confidence' Motion

*BK251308 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*1230 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Leaders of 10 opposition parties and groups in Parliament met in New Delhi to decide to table a motion of no confidence against the government. They also decided to use the available parliamentary devices to express their views over the recent rulings by the speaker of the Lok Sabha [disallowing parliamentary debate on Zail Singh-Rajiv Gandhi row]. A press note says that dates for bringing forward the relevant motions will be decided by them later. The parties and groups are Telugu Desam, CPI-M, CPI, Janata, Bhartiya Janata Party, Lok Dal, Akali Dal-Longowal, Assam Gana Parishad, Akali Dal-Badal, Forward Block, and Congress-S.

### Delhi Reports 3 State Assembly Election Results

*BK260342 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*0240 GMT 26 Mar 87*

[Excerpts] The ruling Left Front in West Bengal and the National Conference-Congress-I Alliance in Jammu and Kashmir have secured two-third majority in state assemblies. Of the 268 results declared so far, the Left Front has bagged 229 seats. The Communist Party of India-Marxist [CPI-M] on its own has gained absolute majority by winning 171 seats. The chief minister, Mr Jyoti Basu, retained the Satgachia seat defeating his nearest Congress-I rival by over 15,000 votes. [passage omitted]

The Congress-I-National Conference Alliance in Jammu and Kashmir has bagged 54 seats out of the 61 declared so far. The new government is likely to be installed by this evening. The chief minister, Dr Farooq Abdullah, held discussions in New Delhi yesterday with the senior leaders of Congress-I on the formation of the cabinet. Our Jammu correspondent understands that a meeting of the newly elected MLA's [Members of Legislative Assembly] of the two parties will be held in Jammu today to elect the leaders.

In Kerala, the Left Democratic Front ministry headed by the CPI-M leader, Mr E.K. Nayanar, will be sworn in this evening. Mr Nayanar was elected leader of the CPI-M legislature party yesterday. He later called on the governor, Mr Ramachandran, in Trivanandapuram. Our Trivanandapuram correspondent, B.V. Unithananda understands that along with Mr Nayanar, leaders of the other constituent parties of the Left Democratic Front will also be sworn in.

In the by-elections, the Congress-I has won all the three Lok Sabha seats of Secunderabad in Andhra Pradesh and Hardwar in Uttar Pradesh. [passage omitted]

### Militants Demand Gurkha State 'Within 30 Days'

*BK250932 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] New Delhi, March 25 (AFP) — Gurkha militants fighting for a separate state in the north-east have demanded with menaces that the Indian Government bow to their demands for "Gurkhaland" within 30 days, reports said here Wednesday.

President of the Gurkha National Liberation Front (GNLF) Subhas Gheising reportedly said in Darjeeling Tuesday that the GNLF's campaign would take a "different course" if the deadline, beginning Monday, was not met. "The agitation will take a different course. Just wait and see," *The Statesman* newspaper quoted him as telling a news conference.

The ultimatum came a day after the Front organised a successful boycott of elections in Darjeeling for the Marxist-dominated West Bengal State legislative assembly which controls the north-eastern hill district. Just three ballots were cast in urban areas of Darjeeling town, Kalimpong, and Kurseong — which together have a total of 80,000 voters.

Mr Gheising, 51 described the success of the GNLF's boycott as a "referendum" endorsing its campaign for a separate Gurkha state within the Indian union. The *Press Trust of India* (PTI) quoted the GNLF leader, a former Indian Army soldier, as saying that the people of Darjeeling had shown that West Bengal's Marxist rule was "not binding on them."

A coalition led by the Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) retained power in the state by routing Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in Monday's elections. "We are not interested in CPI-M or Congress (I) victories," Mr Gheising said. "We wanted a referendum and we got it," he added.

Occasional violence marked the aftermath to the poll boycott. A teenager was killed in a clash between GNLF and communist workers Monday, *The Statesman* said. A CPI-M leader was killed in Kurseong Monday, while another party leader and his daughter were allegedly kidnapped by GNLF workers. Front activists reportedly burned the home of a Congress (I) candidate for the Darjeeling assembly seat. The violence erupted despite Mr Gheising's announcement in New Delhi of a two-month suspension of the GNLF campaign after talks with federal officials in February.

Nearly 100 people have died in Darjeeling since the GNLF began its Gurkhaland campaign in May 1986 alleging that Gurkhas of

Nepalese stock were being treated as second class citizens by the central and state administrations.

Some three million Nepalis live in the north-eastern hills, but the Gurkha movement is concentrated in Darjeeling. The movement was fuelled by the eviction of 7,000 Nepalis from nearby Meghalaya in March 1986. Natives of Meghalaya feared they were becoming outnumbered by immigrants and wanted the Nepalis to leave.

**Muslim Party Leaders Arrested in Kashmir**
*BK251556 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*1530 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] The Jammu and Kashmir police have arrested some top leaders of the Muslim United Front on charges of indulging in secessionist and anti-national activities. An official spokesman told our Srinagar correspondent this evening these leaders were also charged with inciting people to resort to violence and forcing them to close their shops in Srinagar.

**'Terrorists' Flee Golden Temple To Evade Arrest**
*BK251035 Delhi PATRIOT in English 15 Mar 87 p 1*

[Text] Amritsar, March 14 (UNI) — With police gearing itself up to a pitch to check mounting extremism in this city, a large number of terrorists have fled the Golden Temple complex, probably on the advice of the Panthic committee, police sources said today.

Many of those who have left the temple complex are believed to be hard-core terrorists.

Senior police officers said the Panthic committee had reportedly advised terrorists inside the Golden Temple complex to leave and evade arrest.

The police officers said they believed the step was connected with the 7 March incident when police entered the Golden Temple complex along with paramilitary personnel to rescue plainclothes policemen held by militants.

They said the incident had served to warn militants that security forces were prepared to enter the Temple should the necessity arise.

Police have arrested more than 50 terrorists during the last one month from near the Golden Temple complex.

**Establishment of Thorium Plant Proposed for Orissa**
*BK251306 Delhi Domestic Service in English*
*1230 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] The minister of state for science and technology, K. R. Narayanan, said in the Lok Sabha that government proposes to set up a thorium plant with an annual capacity of 150 metric tons of thorium nitrate in Orissa. It is expected to be completed in 2 years. He also said a fast reactor reprocessing plant is to be set up at Kalpakkam which will be ready by about 1993.

**U.S. Role in Pakistan Nuclear Issue Viewed**
*BK251451 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English*
*20 Mar 87 p 8*

[Editorial: "Who is Bluffing Whom?"]

[Text] In his Washington-Delhi telephonic press conference, the U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Near East and South Asian Affairs, Mr Robert Peek, has reiterated his government's stand on Pakistan's nuclear capability. This overwhelming intelligence and other evidence that Pakistan, in the words of U.S. Senator John Glenn, has "all the components and means for assembling a working nuclear device", the Reagan administration has gone ahead with its request to Congress to waive the Symington amendment and approve a fresh $4 billion military and economic aid package to that country. The Symington legislation forbids U.S. aid to any country which has developed or is developing nuclear weapons capability. However, Mr Reagan has certified, as he is required to do, that Pakistan is in neither category. As *The New York Times* put it, "For years, Pakistan has lied to the United States about not having a nuclear weapons programme, and for years the United States has bought the fiction."

But is it really a case of innocence on the part of the Reagan administration? The answer is an emphatic no. What it clearly looks like now is a case of the tail wagging the dog. Thanks to U.S. global ambitions and obsessions, thanks to its perennial tilt towards Pakistan vis-a-vis India, and thanks to the situation created by Soviet intervention in Afghanistan, Pakistan finds itself in a position where it can blackmail the United States into a posture of inaction or deception in regard to Pakistan's nuclear weapons plans and preparations. This does not mean, however, that the United States really cannot do anything about it. It can withhold the proposed fresh aid. This many not stop Pakistan in its nuclear tracks but it will certainly hurt it in terms of its economic and conventional arms requirements. Moreover, such an action would uphold the letter and spirit of the Symington legislations about nuclear weapons proliferation. Mr Reagan undoubtedly realises all this but evidently is in no mood to follow this honest and sane course. It is now for U.S. Congress and public opinion to act, and do so before it is too late.

### Ziaul Haq Expresses Grief Over Afghan Bombing

*BK251126 Karachi Domestic Service in English*
*1100 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq has expressed grief and anguish at the heavy loss of life and property as a result of the outrageous bombing last Monday by the Kabul regime aircraft of Teri Mangal in Kurram Agency and Ankur Adda in South Waziristan Agency. In separate messages to the Northwest Frontier Province governor and the chief minister, he asked them to convey his heartfelt grief to the bereaved families. The president emphasized that every effort be made to provide immediate relief, medical help, and compensation to the affected families in their rehabilitation.

### 'Strong Protest' Lodged

*BK241629 Karachi Domestic Service in English*
*1600 GMT 24 Mar 87*

[Text] Pakistan has lodged a stong protest with the Kabul authorities over the deliberately provocative attacks on its soil in which a number of people were killed and injured. It was officially stated in Islamabad today that three Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace yesterday by 2 km in South Waziristan Agency and dropped three bombs on village Ankur Adda killing 22 persons and injuring another 26. Later on the same day four Afghan aircraft violated Pakistan's airspace by 4 km in Kurram Agency and dropped six rockets and twelve bombs on Teri Mangal village. As a result 65 persons were killed and 101 wounded.

The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this afternoon and a strong protest was lodged with him. It was further conveyed that the entire responsibility for the serious consequences of such acts of unprovoked aggression on our territory would rest on the Kabul authorities.

### Visiting PRC Official Meets Ziaul Haq

*BK250225 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu*
*1700 GMT 24 Mar 87*

[Text] The president of the People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries of China, (Liao Jhenchen), called on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq in Rawalpindi this afternoon and exchanged views with him on matters of mutual interest. The president commended the contributions made by (Liao) to the development of Pakistan-China friendship and understanding.

### Omani State Foreign Minister Arrives 24 Mar

*BK250201 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu*
*1700 GMT 24 Mar 87*

[Text] Omani Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yusuf al-Alawi 'Abdallah has arrived in Islamabad where he was received by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Zain Noorani.

### Envoy to India Views Relations on National Day

*BK240338 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu*
*0200 GMT 24 Mar 87*

[Text] Pakistani Ambassador to India Dr Humayun Khan has reaffirmed that his country firmly believes that relations based on peace, tranquillity, and cooperation are very useful for the interest of Pakistan and India. Giving a statement to the Indian radio and television on the occasion of Pakistan Day yesterday, he said that there is no reason as to why the two countries should not respect the principles of sovereignty and equality and each other's territorial integrity and independence. He said that Pakistan will continue its efforts for peaceful relations with India.

## SRI LANKA

### Prime Minister Leaves for Pakistan, Egypt, Kenya

*BK251440 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Prime Minister R. Premadasa left last night from the Colombo international airport, Katunayaka, on state visits to Pakistan and Egypt. He was accompanied by Mrs Hema Premadasa and the secretary to the prime minister, K.S.J. Wijayadasa. The minister of transport and Muslim affairs, M.H. Mohamed, is accompanying the prime minister on his visit to Pakistan. The Pakistan ambassador in Sri Lanka, Tariq Mohammad Mir, also left last night accompanying the prime minister.

Mr Premadasa will hold bilateral talks with his Pakistani counterpart, Mr Junejo, and will also call on President Mohammad Ziaul Haq. The visit has received wide publicity in the Pakistani media. At the end of his 5-day state visit to Pakistan, the prime minister will leave for Egypt. Thereafter, on 6 April, the prime minister is scheduled to address the 10th commemmorative session of the UN commission on shelter in Nairobi, Kenya.

### Jaffna LTTE Leader Offers Detained Soldiers' Release

*BK251242 Hong Kong AFP in English 1221 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Colombo, March 25 (AFP) — Sri Lankan security forces killed a leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) separatist group in a raid Tuesday on a jungle camp near eastern Batticaloa, government officials said here Wednesday.

The LTTE leader, identified as Rajan, opened fire as troops moved in to smash his hideout at Mamayamamirthakali and was killed in the ensuing shootout, a spokesman at the government Media Centre said.

A second LTTE cadre was injured and captured, while a large number of hand grenades were recovered by government forces, sources said.

In the north, separatists fired at a naval vessel inside the Karainagar Naval camp and the Navy retaliated, the sources said, adding that the separatists sustained heavy casualties but the exact number hurt was not known.

The Tamil-language daily *Virakesari* reported Wednesday that the LTTE Jaffna commander, Kittu, had offered to release eight government soldiers being held hostage in exchange for 20 to 25 LTTE cadres in government custody. The paper said the guerrillas put five of the soldiers on public display in Jaffna on Sunday afternoon.

Meanwhile, leaders of the Buddhist clergy appealed to Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in a telegram to mediate in the ethnic violence, but asked that he not be party to any agreement that would undermine Sri Lanka's unity and sovereignty. The 30,000 Buddhist monks in Sri Lanka have strong influence among the country's 72 percent Sinhalese population.

More than 40 guerrillas, civilians, and troops have been reported killed in clashes and a separatist attack on a village since Sunday. Ethnic clashes between Sinhalese and minority Tamils together with fighting between government troops and Tamil separatists have killed more than 5,000 people since mid-1983.

### SUN Says India Should Not Make Impossible Demands

*BK250947 Colombo SUN in English 17 Mar 87 p 7*

[Editorial: "From Jaffna to Geneva"]

[Text] The surprise visit of Indian Premier Rajiv Gandhi's special emissary, the release of PTA [Prevention of Terrorism Act] detainees and the easing of the economic embargo in the north indicate that the positives are yet as strong as the agonising negatives in the ethnic conflict.

Dinesh Singh, a dapper former Foreign Minister and confidant of late Premier Indira Gandhi, arrived on a special aircraft on Saturday morning with a message from Premier Gandhi to President Jayewardene.

The contents of the message were not disclosed. But the state-run all India Radio announced the news along with its own report that there appeared to be no easing of the embargo and that there were largescale troop movements to the north. This was perhaps an indication of a tough line in the latest Gandhi message.

Amidst the continuing violence and uncertainty over the negotiations, the much-debated, widely-publicised human rights dispute in Geneva last week caused further strains in Indo-Sri Lanka relations.

Whoever won or lost the war of words at the UN Human Rights Commission session in Geneva, the exercise smacked of devious manipulations on one side and mishandling or perhaps an underestimation of the issue on the other side.

An intercontinental ballistic missile against Sri Lanka came all the way from Argentina, in a bizarre twist to our ethnic conflict.

An isolated and controversial vote by Sri Lanka on the Falklands dispute had apparently antagonised Argentina so much that it readily agreed to play proxy for New Delhi's South Block. In addition, co-operation in a campaign for nuclear disarmament and close non-aligned links have drawn New Delhi and the seemingly respectable civilian regime in Buenos Aires into a close alliance, which was used against Sri Lanka last week.

The back stage drama in Geneva reflected the international complications involved in this country's ethnic conflict. Pakistan played a mediatory role while a superpower is said to have asked for a vote against Cuba in return for a vote against the Indo-Argentinian resolution. Another issue of significance at Geneva was the other nation in the dock — the widely criticised regime in Chile. A comparison during Salvador Allende's time may have been acceptable. But to be probed along with a detested military dictatorship was in itself an insult to Sri Lanka.

The Indian leadership now facing serious internal political turmoil should not try to use the Sri Lanka crisis to its own advantage.

Already a kind of xenophobia seems to pollute the relations between the two countries particularly in view of the tough demands and cautionary advice emanating from the so-called Honest Broker.

India should not make impossible demands from Lanka, especially when it is fully aware of the factual position. For instance can Lanka be forced to remain like a clay pigeon when the agents of terror carry on regardless with murder and mayhem as they usually do? Now that India has also received a taste of terror in Black Sunday's train bomb in Tamil Nadu it should do some urgent soul searching.

From Jaffna to Geneva, the main theme however was for peace through a political settlement. We urge a fresh, determined bid in that direction.

### Khamene'i Reiterates Warning on U.S. Gulf Intervention

*LD261503 Tehran IRNA in English 1457 GMT 26 Mar 87*

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., March 26, IRNA — Any U.S. intervention in the Persian Gulf would only serve to jeopardize the interests of its allies in the region, in addition to further damaging its reputation in the world, said President Khamene'i here Thursday.

Speaking to reporters, the president added "we have always guessed that Washington would not volunteer for a military interference in the region, and the U.S. is certainly wise enough not to threaten us politically and militarily."

Khamene'i advised the U.S. allies in the region to be realistic and know that security of the Persian Gulf is the security of the regional countries especially Iran. "Presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf would certainly endanger regional security," he added.

Referring to the Islamic Republic stance for punishment of the aggressor of the Iraqi-imposed war, the president said that Iraq's political and military situation is so shaky that Iraqi forces are unable to face the Iranian Muslim combatants. Helplessness and lack of morale of the Iraqi regime have forced it to propose a peace plan, Khamene'i said.

President Khamene'i concluded his six-day visit to this east Iranian city and left here for Tehran Thursday afternoon.

### Israel, U.S. Involved in Capture of Iranian Hostages

*LD252258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] A Central News Unit report from London reveals that while no new information has yet been issued on the nature of the activities of the archbishop of Canterbury concerning the release of Iranian diplomats taken hostage in 1982 in Beirut by the Phalangists supported by Israeli forces, some new information has recently emerged concerning the way these diplomats were captured.

On the basis of a secret report not yet officially confirmed, American and Israeli intelligence services were involved in the hostage-taking of Iranian diplomats. According to this report, the taking of Iranian diplomats as hostages by the Phalangists was not a simple or incidental event, but was based on previously drawn up plans by the intelligence services of America and Israel. This report adds: American intelligence services who were operating within the framework of the United Nations peace-keeping forces shadowed them and (?eventually) trapped them using the Phalangists and the assistance of Israeli forces.

According to this report, Lebanon's Muslim revolutionaries, in addition to blowing up the Army staff headquarters of the Zionist regime in Tyre on 4 November 1983, also blew up the command headquarters of U.S. and French forces in Beirut on 23 October. This is because they found out that U.S. and French forces had not come to Lebanon to help the people of Lebanon or to establish order, but to conduct espionage and to serve Israel.

### Congolese Foreign Minister Arrives 25 Mar

*NC250738 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that at the official invitation of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mr Antoine Ndinga-Oba the Congolese minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived in Tehran this morning. Our Foreign Minister Mr Velayati and a number of Foreign Ministry officials welcomed him and his accompanying delegation.

After his arrival in Tehran, the Congolese foreign minister spoke with our correspondent. When asked about the objective of his visit to Iran, he said: Iran is a big country, and we have come here to consolidate fraternal relations and cooperation between our two countries. He added: So far we have had various contacts on different levels with Iranian officials, which have made it possible for us to expand and consolidate bilateral relations.

Our foreign minister also agreed to hold an interview with our correspondent. Referring to the establishment of formal relations between Iran and the Congo during recent months, he said: Presently we have an accredited ambassador to that country. After the revolution and on different occasions, meetings took place between officials of the two countries, the most important of which was the meeting between our president and the president of the Congo in Harare during the Nonaligned conference. Referring to the meetings that the Congolese foreign minister will have with Iranian officials, Mr Velayati said: This visit is aimed at laying the foundations for practical and extensive relations between Iran and the Congo.

### Discusses Issues With Velayati

*LD251746 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Congolese Foreign Minister Antoine Ndinga-Oba arrived in our country this morning at the head of a high-ranking diplomatic-economic delegation. He is here at the invitation of Foreign Minister Velayati. After visiting Behesht-e Zahra cemetery and paying his respects to the martyrs of the Islamic Revolution and of the imposed war, he had a meeting with Mr Velayati.

During the meeting, Mr Velayati described the latest developments in the region and the imposed war. He expressed Iran's views on the imposed war and Iraq's contravention of international regulations by its deployment of chemical weapons and attacks on residential areas. He called for more reaction by international organizations, including the Nonaligned Movement, to combat the illegal acts of the Iraqi regime.

The foreign minister outlined Iran's stand regarding international issues such as those of Palestine, Lebanon, and southern Africa and the independence of Namibia. He called for the expansion of relations between the two countries. He expressed the hope that the two countries will cooperate more closely on international issues.

During the meeting, while expressing his gratitude for the warm welcome by Iranian officials, the Congolese foreign minister commented on the relations between the two countries and the latest world developments. He mentioned the issue of southern Africa, the financial and economic problems of Third World countries and of the people of Africa, and the issue of the political domination of super-powers over Third World countries through use of economic weapons. He expressed the hope that with the expansion of relations between the two countries and reciprocal visits by the two countries' officials, relations between Iran and the Congo will expand further and that the two countries will consult each other further about various issues, including international ones.

During the meeting, it was agreed that mutual relations in various fields will be discussed in various committees, and the framework for cooperation between the two countries will be determined with the formation of the committee.

## Heavy Industries Minister Views Non-Oil Exports

*NC250903 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
*0430 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] In an exclusive interview with our correspondent, the minister of heavy industries answered questions on the ministry's policy and various activities to ensure the foreign exchange income required by the heavy industries sector in view of the reduction in oil revenues during recent years. We invite you to listen to this interview.

[Begin recording] [Minister] In the name of God, the Almighty. We started developing programs to this effect last year. We even thought that foreign exchange incomes could drop further; hence, the series of preliminary steps before a considerable drop in oil prices.

Our activities have pursued two objectives. One was aimed at gaining a foreign exchange income from sources other than oil. The second was aimed at decreasing foreign expenditures for the country's heavy industries.

In reference to increasing the foreign exchange income, obviously the first step that can be taken is to focus on exports. We did the best we could to this effect. So far, many agreements have been signed between our production units and trading partners, such as Turkey, the East European countries, and even some Western companies. Of course, when we say many agreements, you should not think that all these agreements have been implemented and that the foreign exchange from them has been collected; as you know, entering the export market of the world today is an extremely difficult task, both as far as competition and organization are concerned. In order to be competitive, product quality should be raised and prices should be decreased. Of course, the actualization of this takes time. Nevertheless, with the multifarious, focused efforts of all those involved in the country's industry, we are witnessing spectacular developments toward this end, although it is still very far from what we want and what is desirable. However, on the whole, as far as I know, during the 7 months of this year [as heard], about $10 million worth of non-oil products have been exported and the foreign exchange for this has been collected by the companies exporting the products. The agreements concluded may be for sums of more than $100 million or $150 million and many pro forma invoices may have been issued, but what we have collected is only $10 million, a small sum. If you compare this amount with the yearly amount of foreign exchange spent by the heavy industries and by companies under the umbrella of heavy industries, you can see how small this sum is. However, if we compare this amount to the amount collected during the same period last year, we see that the volume of non-oil exports has increased more than 10 times. Our non-oil exports during the same period last year may not have been $1 million, but now this sum is $10 million. Of course, $10 million is still a very small amount. However, efforts continue, and God willing, in later stages we may be able to reap the fruits of these efforts.

[Correspondent] Can you please tell us what products were exported and whether the foreign exchange from these exports goes into a common fund for the Organization for the Development [of Industries], or is used exclusively by the exporting unit itself?

[Minister] Most of the export products included in the agreements are various types of vehicles like passenger cars, minibuses, and trucks. Other types of buses, as well as locally made and cast parts are also exported. We export parts cast and manufactured by us to some countries for the production of a specific product. We especially favor this aspect of our exports program because, as you know, the export of vehicles is, at any rate, the export of a product that is the outcome of a semi-assembly or full-assembly line that uses parts imported from abroad. An amount is added to these products that are imported and, in turn, the finished product is exported. But if you export a locally manufactured part, the entire income will go to you because everything will have been done locally. What you will actually be exporting will be the outcome of your total work.

The foreign exchange received from any export product is collected by the unit that exports it. As for units that are under the umbrella of specific organizations, such as the Organization for the Development and Renovation of Iranian Industries, apparently 80 percent of the foreign exchange goes to the unit itself, while the remaining 20 percent goes to a specific fund for the expansion of exports or for use in the country's other industries. The other and second major source of increase in foreign exchange income from non-oil exports came from associated products, such as machinery, spare parts, and similar products, the lack of which may paralyze a production unit.

[Correspondent] Thank you very much.

[Minister] You are welcome. [end recording]

## 100 Iraqi POW's To Be Released Over Next 3 Months

*LD251728 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
*1030 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] In continuation of its humanitarian acts, the Islamic Republic of Iran will unilaterally release 100 disabled Iraqi POW's.

According to an IRNA report from Mashhad, the chairman of the POW committee and the secretary of the Supreme Defense Council announced: These POW's will be released during the next 3 months.

It should be pointed out that so far, 600 Iraqi POW's have been released by Iran, while the Iraqi regime has freed nearly 500 Iranian POW's, less than 10 percent of whom are military men and the rest of whom are civilians.

**Year's War Operations, Political Dimension Viewed**
*NC251205 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
*0430 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Commentary prepared by the Central News Unit Research Group]

[Excerpts] The solar year of 1365 [year ending 20 March 1987] is behind us, a year in which Islamic Iran scored more victories than in the preceding years in its fight against the mercenaries of colonialism. [passage omitted]

Early 1365 saw the presence of the forces of Islam in Al-Faw. The strength of these operations and the passing of the combatants of Islam from Arvand Rud was so skillful that the enemy, armed with the most modern Russian and French arms, was caught by surprise. The continuous blows by the combatants of Islam led to the liberation of this strategic port, Iraq's only link with the Persian Gulf.

The valorous "Val Fajr-8" operation by the combatants of Islam in occupying Al-Faw port started in late 1364. It altered the region's political-military geography, liberating more than 800 square kms and placing Arvand Rud entirely under Iranian control. Because of this operation Iran now shares borders with Kuwait.

This successful operation cut off Iraq's most important link with the Persian Gulf, creating a serious problem for it, both militarily and economically. Thus, in the early stages after the liberation of this area, Saddam and his defeated generals, with the propagandistic support of colonialism, attempted a futile effort to regain it. However, as we saw, all military and propaganda plots failed thanks to the resistance of our dear combatants.

After the occupation of Al-Faw, the despicable enemy, realizing that it could not regain Al-Faw in any way, finally admitted to having lost this port. However, it announced that it would try to occupy part of Iran's territory and to return it only if the Iranian forces withdrew from Al-Faw. Thus, in mid-May it occupied Mehran, and Saddam, the head of the regime ruling Iraq, announced that his forces would leave Mehran only if the Iranian forces withdrew from Al-Faw. However, the combatants of Islam carried out a lightning attack in Tir [month ending 22 July] with their "Karbala'-1" operation, and not only ousted the enemy from Mehran, but drove it back more than 40 kms from its former position. [passage omitted]

In Shahrivar [month ending 22 September] the combatants of Islam heroically attacked the Ba'thist-Zionist enemy's positions in the northwest war theater and started the "Karbala'-2" operation. In this operation the attack by the combatants of Islam was so swift and surprising that those most inflicted were Iraq's high-ranking officers. Iraq's military installations, too, suffered heavy damages. The important factor in this operation was the organized participation of the Iraqi Muslim mojahedin and volunteers against the Saddamist forces.

In the same month, the "Karbala'-5" operation commenced in the blue waters of the Persian Gulf with an attack on the Al-'Ummayah oil platform. This operation took place on the eve of the month of Moharram, and the outcome was the liberation of the Al-'Ummayah oil platform, the Iraqi regime's center for spying and crimes in the Persian Gulf. [passage omitted]

The liberation of the Al-'Ummayah jetty, which complemented the valorous "Val Fajr-8" operation, led to the Islamic Republic's absolute sovereignty in the Khawr 'Abdallah region and at the mouth of the Persian Gulf. It also prevented the Ba'thist Iraqi regime from using the Persian Gulf waters, even through Saddam's mentors in neighboring countries.

In January, we witnessed the "Karbala'-4" operations in the Umm al-Rasas and Abu al-Khasib regions. The objective of these operations was to destroy the enemy's force and installations. More than 3,000 enemy officers, NCO's, and enlisted men who had been placed on alert were killed, and a large quantity of equipment was destroyed. Once again, the increasing strength of the combatants of Islam in inflicting blows on the enemy was displayed.

The Karbala' operations, aimed at destroying the Iraqi regime's war machinery, culminated with the "Karbala'-5" operation. [passage omitted] Not only did this operation inflict deadly blows on Iraq's war machinery, but, as our troops advanced, it caused such great concern among the leaders of arrogant powers in the East and the West that, for example, a most perturbed Reagan called on the Islamic Republic to withdraw its forces from Iraqi territory.

Shortly after the commencement of the 'Karbala'-5" operation, combatants of the Islamic Republic's Ground Forces began the "Karbala'-6" operations in the Sumar region and inflicted more deadly blows on the Iraqi regime. The "Karbala'-5" operation [as heard] was so effective and strong that all the pro-colonialist mass media, despite their sly stands, had to admit the Islamic Republic's combat power. Foreign correspondents followed up an inspection of these operations' theaters with a dispatch to the entire world of their observations on the victories scored by the combatants of Islam.

In continuation of the Karbala' operations and to further weaken Saddam's forces, the combatants of the Islamic Republic's Ground Forces inflicted effective blows in the last days of 1365 with the "Karbala'-7" operations on Saddam's forces in the northwest and on the Hajj 'Umran front.

We have briefly glanced at the Karbala' operations. We should also mention that, in line with these operations, during the past year the combatants of Islam carried out four major operations named "Fath" deep within Iraqi Kurdistan with the participation

of the Iraqi Kurdish forces. They have inflicted effective blows in this part of Iraqi territory on the dependent Iraqi regime's forces, as well as on their military, economic and telecommunications installations, and security centers. For example, in the "Fath-1" operation the combatants of Islam advanced 150 kms within Iraqi territory with the help of the Kurdish forces, setting fire to the Kirkuk oil refinery and destroying a number of Monafeqin [Mojahedin-e Khalq] bases. It should be mentioned that during the "Fath-2" operation, the Dukan Dam and its electricity generator were also heavily damaged.

The operations of the combatants in Iraq's Kurdistan, carried out in conjunction with operations on other fronts, will continue pitilessly until the downfall of Saddam's regime, further proving the decay and impotency of the Iraqi regime and showing that Saddam's regime has no control over Iraqi territory up to 150-200 kms within its borders.

We have briefly studied the spectacular operations by the combatants of Islam during the past year. However, we should also briefly glance at the political dimensions of the war and its impact on an international level. As said previously, world arrogance and its elements, namely the region's cancerous tumor Israel, continue to feel concern over the advancement of the forces of Islam. During the past year they have repeatedly expressed their concern over our forces' infiltration into Iraqi territory, attempting by this to add to the concern felt by small countries in the south of the Persian Gulf, especially after the conquest of Al-Faw and the "Karbala'-5" operations. The arrogant and Zionist leaders repeatedly announced that the only danger threatening their interests in the Middle East was Iran's Islamic Revolution. As an example, Abba Eban, chairman of the Foreign Relations and Military Committee in the Zionist regime's Knesset, expressed concern over the course of the war after the victories scored by the combatants of Islam in the "Karbala'-5" operation. He described the victory of Islamic Iran over the Iraqi Army as a thunderblot that will strike the entire region.

On the one hand, such remarks reveal the fear felt by arrogance and its important elements in the region such as Israel with the strengthening of Islamic Iran in the region. On the other hand, such remarks are an attempt to reassure the Baghdad regime. Next to these concerns, the media affiliated with arrogance also did their best, with their hypocricial and equivocal commentaries and analyses, to downplay our combatants' operations in Iraqi territory and to infuse spirit back into Saddam's regime. Despite all these efforts, however, they later had to admit to the advancement of the forces of Islam.

Apart from Western arrogance and its elements, Eastern colonialism too, while continuing its military aid to Iraq, both tacitly and overtly — or through the mouth of its UN representative and despite its claim of impartiality in the imposed war — announced that it will continue its military assistance to the Iraqi regime.

International organizations, namely the United Nations, did not take any positive steps against the Iraqi regime's crimes last year, especially concerning the dastardly bombing of residential areas and the murder of our innocent compatriots. Although on 22 December the UN Security Council issued a statement condemning attacks on civilian targets, mercantile ships, and the oil installations of the Persian Gulf littoral states, no mention was made that the Iraqi regime was the perpetrator in the war of the cities. It should be said that, unfortunately, international organizations have adopted a stance of silence vis-a-vis the Iraqi regime's savage crimes against our cities' residential areas, which resulted in more than 3,000 martyrs and thousands of wounded.

Despite all this, last year, just as in the preceding years, the valorous combatants, who have never depended on the ineffective steps taken by these organizations, continued their pitiless fight against the forces of the criminal Saddam. As everyone saw, the combatants inflicted very effective blows on them, many more than were inflicted throughout the previous 6 years of war.

In the new year, too, by responding to the call of their dear and great imam, the combatants of Islam will do their best, more resolutely than before, to inflict the final blow on the shaky regime of Saddam.

## Communique Reports 'Control' Over Hormuz Shipping

*LD251718 Tehran IRNA in English 1645 GMT 25 Mar 87*

[Text] Tehran, March 25, IRNA — The Iranian Navy maintained control over shipping in the Strait of Hormuz Tuesday and Wednesday, intercepting five foreign ships and oil tankers but allowed them to continue voyage since no suspicious case was observed.

Announcing the above Wednesday, the 2786th Joint Staff Command communique added that Iran's Muslim combatants' artillery fire checked activities of Iraqi forces in the northwestern fronts over the said period.

In the western fronts, heavy Iranian fire silenced enemy fire, destroying three Iraqi vehicles, a mortar launcher, and several group and individual bunkers in addition to inflicting some losses upon enemy troops.

The enemy forces also sustained more casualties and damage during Tuesday and Wednesday when movements of five Iraqi vehicle columns in five areas of the said fronts were halted by Iranian artillery fire.

Further down, in the southern fronts, fire exchanges continued between the two sides, being more [words indistinct] region. Also, four enemy vehicle columns were subjected to Iranian artillery fire which halted their activities in Yabis, Chazzabeh, and Nahr-e 'Anbar.

Iranian Gendarmerie forces, in the said sector of the war fronts, destroyed over 10 Iraqi bunkers, one 23mm artillery piece, and a vehicle, killing or wounding a number of enemy troops, said the communique.

## IRGC, Iraqi Kurds Continue Operations Against Iraq

### Town Infiltrated; Bases Destroyed

*LD241727 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
*1630 GMT 24 Mar 87*

[Text] The Joint Staff of the three services of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, citing Ramadan headquarters, the center of irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, has announced: In the course of the third successful phase of the "Fath 4" offensive, carried out during the past few days in cooperation between the special combatants of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, the Kurdish Peshmergas infiltrated into the town of Qaranjir, 25 km from Kirkuk, and gained complete control of the town for several hours. They destroyed three support bases, killed a number of forces of the regime ruling over Iraq, and captured part of their arms and equipment.

In the course of controlling Qaranjir town, Rashid 'Abd al-Rahman, the official in charge of the town's Ba'th Party, was killed and his arms and car were seized by the Peshmergas. The town's military bases and centers were under the light and medium-heavy fire of the combatants of Islam for 1 hour. The Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan Peshmergas, in another operation, also attacked an enemy base on the Kirkuk-Sulaymaniyah road, killed the personnel stationed there, captured their arms, and destroyed the base.

### Iraq-Turkey Highway Seized

*NC220705 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian*
*0430 GMT 22 Mar 87*

[Text] According to reports from Ramadan Headquarters, the center for irregular operations conducted by the Islamic Revolution Guards' Corps Ground Forces, KDP Peshmergas attacked and completely destroyed the (Sarfang) assembly point for the forces of the Iraqi ruling regime in the (Somol) area of west Dohuk sometime in the last few days. During this operation, the Peshmergas also seized the international Iraq-Turkey highway for several hours. A number of oil tankers and military vehicles of the Zionist enemy using this highway were subsequently destroyed.